



# Arizona State Retirement System

3300 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012

[WWW.ASRS.STATE.AZ.US](http://WWW.ASRS.STATE.AZ.US)

## Fact Sheet

### **Information:**

Phoenix (602) 240-2000

Tucson (520) 239-3100

Toll-free (800) 621-3778

### **MILITARY SERVICE PURCHASE**

If you are an active, contributing member of the Arizona State Retirement System or are receiving a Long Term Disability benefit through the ASRS, you are entitled to purchase certain types of credited service to be applied toward your retirement benefit, including prior military service. Purchasing service may be advantageous because it has a direct impact on the amount of your pension benefit when you retire.

To purchase any military service, a member must not have received credit for the time from the ASRS or another non-military public retirement system. Members will receive credit for a maximum of one year of service for each year, regardless of the type(s) of service or the number of employers.

#### **Purchasing Active Duty time**

You may purchase service credit for active military duty under the following conditions:

- You are an active, contributing member of the ASRS, or are receiving long-term disability through the ASRS.
- You have been honorably discharged from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- Members must provide proof of the time served by submitting the appropriate military service record (DD214 or its equivalent).

#### **Purchasing National Guard and Military Reserve time**

Arizona Revised Statute 38-745 allows an ASRS member to purchase service time with any military branch of the United States, which includes the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Naval Reserve, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, and the Marine Forces Reserve.

You may purchase service credit for National Guard and Military Reserve time under the following conditions:

- You are an active, contributing member of the ASRS, or are receiving long-term disability through the ASRS.
- Members must provide proof of the time served by submitting the appropriate military service record (DD214 or equivalent).

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## **Previous requests to purchase National Guard and Military Reserve time**

Previously, the ASRS did not make allowances for purchase of military reserve or National Guard duty. However, because of clarification in law, such purchases now may be made, under the following conditions by active, inactive or retired members:

- A request to purchase past military reserve or National Guard time must have been previously made, and rejected by the ASRS, after July 20, 1996. (July 20, 1996 marked the inception of the ASRS Service Purchase program.)
- You must have been an active member of the ASRS on or after July 20, 1996, or at the time the previous request to purchase the service was made.
- Active, inactive or retired members who made a previous request can supply an affidavit as proof of previous request and denial. The ASRS will supply the affidavit form.
- The cost to purchase service, once the affidavit is accepted by the ASRS, will be the normal cost at the time the request was made.
- The salary used to calculate costs for retired or inactive applications will be the final "average monthly compensation" (retired) or "most current annual compensation" (inactive) as defined in ARS 38-711.
- The ASRS will adjust the pension benefit for retired members after payment of their military reserve or National Guard service is received by the ASRS.
- Deadline to file a new request to purchase military reserve or National Guard time is March 31, 2005.

*For information on purchase costs and payment options, please refer to the Service Purchase Fact Sheet or contact Member Services at (602) 240-2000 in Phoenix, (520) 239-3100 in the Tucson area, or Toll-free at (800) 621-3778.*

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